

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 037896

FOR ATHERTON

FOLLOWING REPEAT BEIRUT 1465 ACTION SECSTATE 17 FEB

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 1465

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT,LE

SUBJECT: SHOOTING AT AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT

1. I HAVE JUST SPOKEN WITH PRESIDENT KIRKWOOD WHO IS SAFE AT HOME AFTER NARROWLY ESCAPING ASSASSINATION THIS MORNING WHICH TOOK LIVES OF DEAN OF STUDENTS ROBERT NAJEMY (AN AMERICAN CITIZEN) AND DEAN OF ENGINEERING RAYMONKD GHOSN. ONE OR MORE GUNMEN KILLED THESE TWO AND HELF SOME OTHER AUB OFFICIALS HOSTAGE IN PRESIDENT'S OUTER OFFICE THIS MORNING UNTIL TWO DOCTORS WITH GOOD PALESTINIAN CONNECTIONS WHO KNEW THE GUNMAN INVOLVED EXCHANGED THEMSELVES FOR THE HOSTAGES AND GOT THE GUNMAN OUT OF THE BUILDING.

2. SITUATION AND ALL DETAILS NOT YET CLEAR AND WILL BE REPORTED MORE FULLY. THE ONE MAN IDENTIFIED ISK NAMED NAJM NAJM, ONE OF THE 103 STUDENTS EXPELLED FROM THE
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UNIVERSITY IN CONNECTION WITH 1974 STUDENT' STRIKE.

HE WAS AN ENGINEERING STUDENT, APPARENTLY PALESTINIAN,
AND A PLO ACTIVIST. WE BELIEVE HE WAS TURNED OVER
TO PALESTINIAN LAW ENFORCEMENT FORCES. REPORTEDLY, SOMEBODY
SHOT HIM AS HE WAS BEING TAKEN AWAY. INCIDENT APPEARS TO HAVE
ENDED.
LAMBRAKIS UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

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